

Amendments to the Specification:

*Please amend the paragraph spanning page 3, line 29 through page 4, line 14 as follows:

Figure 2 illustrates the operations performed by the watermarking interpreter 105. First the watermarking interpreter generates the appropriate raster images as indicated by block 201. A conventional interpreter mechanism, such as that available in the Ghostscript interpreter can be used to generate the raster image files. A block diagram of such a mechanism is provided in Figure 5. Next, as indicated by blocks 203 and 204, the areas in each raster image indicated by mask 401 (mask 401 is explained later) are watermarked. That is, the bits in the area indicated by mask 401 are watermarked using conventional watermarking technology. Next as indicated by block 205, the watermarked raster images are combined into a new postscript file 207. That is, a simple compiler program adds simple PostScript commands and combines the four raster images into a new news PostScript file 207. Creating such a Postscript file from the four raster images uses conventional technology known in the art. Finally the PostScript file 207 is sent to a printer which prints the PostScript file using conventional technology. Naturally the file 207 may be stored on conventional storage mechanisms and electronically transmitted if desired prior to printing.

*Please amend page 5, lines 22-29 as follows:

As indicated in Figure 5 the interpreter takes the graphics 501, the fonts 502, the vectors 503 and the device controls 504 (there also may be other elements) and creates a display list 509. The display list provides information for an image pipeline 511 and a page pipeline 512. The output of pipelines 511 and 512 is the raster image files. In the example illustrated the raster images are CMYK images, 515C, 5165M, 515Y and 515K. Naturally in other environments these could be other types of raster images. The publicly publicly available

source code for the Ghostscript interpreter provides a mechanism for implementing the elements shown in Figure 5.

*Please amend page 6, lines 8-15 as follows:

In the preferred embodiment described above, the four watermarked raster images are combined into a PostScript file as indicated in Figure 1. In an alternate embodiment, the watermarking interpreter is embedded in, and is part of a particular printer. In such an embodiment, the watermarked raster images would be sent directly to the printing mechanism as is conventional. Embedding an interpreter in [[a]] printers is conventional. In such a case after the raster images are watermarked, they would be directly printed rather than being combined into another PostScript file.